

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 /078 W
-----128002 121346Z /47

P R 121215Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 25
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 DUBLIN 0078

FOR S/PRS TRATTNER AND EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) EI, US
SUBJECT: PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PRESS AT
SHANNON AIRPORT, IRELAND ON JANUARY 7.

1. FOLLOWING IS A PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT COVERING NORTHERN
IRELAND MATTERS, OF SECRETARY VANCE'S MEETING WITH THE
PRESS DURING THE REFUELING STOPOVER AT SHANNON AIRPORT ON
AFTERNOON OF SATURDAY, JAN 7. FULL TRANSCRIPT BEING TRANS-
MITTED TO DEPT. TAPE BEING POUCHED BY PAO TO
JOHN TRATTNER, S/PRS.

2. BEGIN TEXT

MR. O'KENNEDY: FIRST OF ALL I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE
SECRETARY OF STATE TO IRELAND ON HIS FIRST VISIT HERE. I
PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT HE HAS CALLED HERE ON
HIS WAY BACK FROM WHAT HAS BEEN A VERY EXHAUSTING BUT A VERY
SUCCESSFUL WORLD TOUR. AND, I APPRECIATE IT PARTICULARLY
IN-SO-FAR AS IT HAS AFFORDED ME THE OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING
FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FIRST-HAND THE PROGRESS REPORTS
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ON THE VARIOUS TALKS WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND HE HAD DURING
THE COURSE OF THEIR TOUR. WE DISCUSSED THE OBVIOUS AREAS
OF THE MIDDLE EAST, THE HORN OF AFRICA, AFRICA GENERALLY,
AND GENERALLY I CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE THE
APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT OF THE IRISH PEOPLE FOR THE CON-
SISTANT STANCE WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION HAVE TAKEN ON MATTERS
ON FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS, ON PEACE AND RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE

WORLD. AND THE FACT THAT THIS TOUR OBVIOUSLY WAS A GOODWILL TOUR WITH DIFFERENT EMPHASIS IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES BUT AS WE COULD SEE IT FROM THIS DISTANCE A VERY SUCCESSFUL TOUR CULMINATING, IF I MAY, MR. SECRETARY OF STATE, WITH YOUR OWN WONDERFUL VISIT TO HUNGARY YESTERDAY AND THE GESTURE FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN RETURNING THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE WHICH I'M QUITE SURE WILL DO AN AWFUL LOT TO WIN FURTHER GOODWILL. FINALLY, I ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND I DISCUSSED THIS BEFORE, OF BRIEFING THE SECRETARY ON THE CURRENT POSITION IN RELATION TO THE NORTH OF IRELAND AND IN PARTICULAR TELLING HIM OF THE EFFECTIVE TALKS WHICH ARE GOING ON BETWEEN BOTH GOVERNMENTS AT OFFICIAL LEVEL AND ALSO AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL AT THE MOMENT ON THE CROSS-BORDER ECONOMIC PROJECTS AND OF ONCE AGAIN CONVEYING TO HIM AND THROUGH HIM TO THE PRESIDENT OUR APPRECIATION FOR THE CONCERN WHICH HAS BEEN EXPRESSED BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE SUPPORT WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER HAS OFFERED TO US IN OUR EFFORTS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM, SUPPORT WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE -- WE KNOW WILL BE -- FORTHCOMING AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME. SO I THINK YOU WOULD OBVIOUSLY LIKE TO ASK THE SECRETARY SOME QUESTIONS.

3. SECRETARY VANCE: LET ME JUST SAY A WORD FIRST, LET ME JUST SAY HOW PLEASED I AM TO BE HERE AND TO HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AGAIN, WE SAW EACH OTHER LAST WHEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS IN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALWAYS UNCLASSIFIED

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A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO MEET WITH HIM AND HAVE A CHANCE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON MANY MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST WHICH WE HAVE. I AM ALSO TERRIBLY GLAD TO BE HERE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY, I JUST WISH IT WERE FOR A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME BUT ITS GOOD TO BE HERE.

4. Q. COULD I JUST ASK YOU MR. VANCE, RTE, HAVE YOU ANY COMMENTS YOURSELF TO OFFER ON THE BRIEFING YOU'VE HAD ON NORTHERN IRELAND FROM MR. O'KENNEDY?

A. I WAS VERY GLAD TO BE BROUGHT UP TO DATE ON WHAT THE SITUATION IS. I'M GLAD TO UNDERSTAND THAT SOME PROGRESS IS BEING MADE AND, AS ALWAYS, WE WILL DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF THE EFFORTS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IN TRYING TO WORK TOWARDS A BETTERING OF THE SITUATION THERE.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 26
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5. Q. COULD YOU SEE ANY FURTHER INITIATIVE FROM PRESIDENT
CARTER ON THE NORTH OF IRELAND?

A. NO I THINK WE SHOULD BE SUPPORTIVE TO WHAT IS BEING DONE
HERE.

6. Q. ARE THERE ANY POSSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TALKS
BETWEEN THE IRISH AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THE
NORTH OF IRELAND?

A. WELL WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER.

7. Q. COULD I PUT A QUESTION TO YOU MR. VANCE, ON THE QUESTION
OF NORTHERN IRELAND? PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
WOULD JOIN IN HELPING TO ENCOURAGE JOB CREATING INVESTMENT.
WELL, SPECIFICALLY, CAN WE EXPECT INVESTMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND
FROM THE U.S. AND IF SO WHAT SHAPE WOULD THIS INVESTMENT TAKE
AND HOW MUCH?

A. I THINK THE SPECIFICS OF THAT ARE HARD TO PREDICT AT THIS
PARTICULAR PERIOD OF TIME, BECAUSE WE ARE WAITING TO SEE WHAT
ACTION IS TAKEN AND WHETHER PROGRESS IS BEING MADE. IF PROGRESS
IS BEING MADE THEN WE WOULD LIKE TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF THE ACTION.
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8. Q. WELL ONE LOCAL POLITICIAN, JOHN HUME IN ACTUAL FACT, DES-
CRIBED THIS POTENTIAL INVESTMENT AS A MINI-MARSHALL PLAN. WHAT
IS YOUR REACTION TO THAT DESCRIPTION?

A. WELL, I DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT HE MEANS BY A MINI-MARSHALL

PLAN.

Q. HE MEANT A LOT OF MONEY, I THINK. (LAUGHTER)

A. WELL WE HAVEN'T COME TO THE AMOUNT OF WHAT MONEY WHOULD BE INVOLVED. THAT'S A BIT DOWN THE ROAD.

9. O'KENNEDY: COULD I JUST SAY IN THAT CONNECTION, IN FACT, THAT I THINK AS THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS INDICATED THE AMERICAN POSITION HAS ALWAYS BEEN BY WAY OF A SUPPORTIVE POSITION TO WHAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS CAN DO.

VANCE: THAT'S RIGHT.

10. O'KENNEDY: WE HAVE BEEN MAKING CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS ON THE ECONOMIC TALKS AND I THINK ITS FAIR TO SAY THAT THE INDICATIONS WHICH THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS GIVEN ME TODAY, AND PREVIOUSLY, AND WHICH WE'VE GOT FROM OUR TALKS IN AMERICA IS -- AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME -- WHEN WE GET THAT DEGREE OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY THAT THE AMERICAN GOODWILL AND COMMITMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

VANCE: I FULLY AGREE WITH THAT.

11. Q. DOES THAT MEAN THAT IF YOU DO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A POWER-SHARING ADMINISTRATION IN NORTHERN IRELAND -- IF A POWER-SHARING ADMINISTRATION WERE TO COME INTO BEING, WOULD YOU THEN BE IN A POSITION TO CONSIDER REAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN
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NORTHERN IRELAND?

A. I WOULD THINK UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES THEN WE WOULD.
(END TEXT)

12. THE DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO THE PRESIDENT'S AND THE SECRETARY'S TRIP. SHANNON

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